



September 2025

Dear Pastor and fellow-labourers,

These past months can be summed up in the exhortation of the Apostle Paul, who said:

*Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

Any pastor or missionary waits for those seasons of reaping but must be content to plow until they come. We thank God that we plow in hope!

As you know, I have been training the next man here to pastor. He is continuing to develop as I work with him in doctrine and other areas of pastoral ministry. Not only is he a help to the work but has become a great encouragement to me personally. His genuine care for me, his thoughtfulness and tender heart has greatly refreshed me and has demonstrated not just the heart of a servant, but the compassion so necessary for one who will become an under-shepherd. We are planning to bring him into the church full-time at the beginning of the new year so that I can have all his time and attention. Please pray for Darren as he finishes this time of preparation.

There are two other men in their 20's that are training and interning with me as well. We are working together to lay the foundation for a new outreach in a large and growing area to the northwest of our church. This area is predominantly Hindu and Sikh, and as yet has no gospel witness. We are finishing the process to get access to the public schools in that area so we can start Bible classes there, and at the beginning of the new year will begin to systematically do evangelism in that area. For now, we are learning about the demographics and praying for the open door. God had laid that area on my heart a few years ago, and now I believe the time is right to begin an evangelistic push. We have a faithful Indian family already in our church that I am giving this vision to, and we are looking for opportunities to start Bible studies there that target this culture and religion. We very much ask for prayer about this, specifically that God would open the door and give me clarity on His timing. Please also pray that we can make a strong connection to a man or woman in that area that has influence within the Sikh or Hindu community, as Lydia in Philippi. This is a great training ground for these two men as they are preparing for their ministry, so we are praying for the Lord's clear direction and work in their lives as I work with them.

Perhaps the biggest challenge I face with our church family is keeping them engaged in reaching the lost. When Jesus told his own disciples that they needed to lift up their eyes to see the fields that were ripe, it was timeless instruction. Our people are very

hospitable by culture, so I have been working to teach them how to use their hospitality as a means of outreach. We are going to be more deliberate in doing this in the months ahead and are making some changes in the church to provide the time and resources they need. The longer we are saved, the more natural it is that our circle of friends becomes entirely Christian... and it is easy to become isolated from the world around us. I am teaching them to look beyond their Christian circle and find deliberate ways of engaging with the lost around them. This is another prayer need. The salt has no effect if it isn't used.

We have seen a few children saved in these past months in various ministries, and this is a cause to rejoice! We are continuing to reach out in the community as well as faithfully preach the gospel, and therefore we rejoice even in the lean times. The Hindu man Krishna is still faithfully attending and listening, and though he is not yet ready to be saved, the interest is there. His wife is now coming with him, and we are praying for her salvation as well. Our newer believers are really growing in their Christian walk and have injected a much-needed energy into the church by their enthusiasm for the Lord.

I have been working with a few other men to develop them as competent teachers and preachers. Each month they are given opportunities to study and teach or preach, and then we sit together for a time of analysis and instruction. These times of training are wonderful for me, and I have clearly seen growth in these men in how they handle the Bible. It is also a great blessing to the church to see these men use their gifting.

I continue to teach on prophecy in various places in Australia, and the Lord has added to our church as a direct result of that work. In November I'll be in New Zealand for this purpose, looking to instruct and strengthen the believers in their understanding of future events. In a few weeks I will be taking five of our men to Africa for a time of remote outreach and missions training. The Lord has blessed this in a very real way over the years, and several of our men have been called to preach from these times of working together on a foreign field. Please pray for good fruit from this time, for safety and the power of the gospel to be displayed.

We don't say it enough, but we are grateful to the Lord for each of you. Thank you for loving the Lord and giving to the work that enables us to train men for the ministry, help pastors and missionaries, and evangelize the unreached.

Yours in Christ,

Tom & Heidi Gonderman